A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER 1971

20 JAN 2005

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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Х	WO 02 09604 A (DEPUY INTERNATIONAL) 7 February 2002 (2002-02-07) page 10, line 31 -page 11, line 13; figure 6	1,2
A	WO 02 17803 A (HÔPITAL SAINTE-JUSTINE) 7 March 2002 (2002-03-07) abstract; figures 1,2,5 page 4, line 23 - line 27 page 8, line 10 - line 16 page 12, line 24 - line 29 page 13, line 27 - line 32	1,4,5
A	WO 94 16635 A (JBS) 4 August 1994 (1994-08-04) page 9, line 8 - line 17; figures 2,9	1,2
Y Fur	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members a	re listed in annex.

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means 'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	 *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent tamily
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
17 December 2003	02/01/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Nice, P

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PCT/FR 03/02307

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